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GHOST RIDER

BATTLES THE
EVER-INCREDIBLE
HULK!



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Demaru Instructor
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Black Belt,
5th Dan



YOUR PHYSICAL SIZE AND AGE ARE UNIMPORTANT

It doesn't make any difference whether you are short, tall, skinny, fat or just plain average. We don't care if you've lost every fight you ever fought. We'll teach you how to defend yourself and those you love against one, two, or even three attackers with complete self confidence. By taking our revolutionary new audiovisual home study course in dynamic KUNG FU & KARATE you'll be able to face ANY MAN, ANYWHERE without the fear of being physically hurt or embarrassed.

WE'LL PROGRAM YOUR MIND TO MASTER ALMOST ANY SELF DEFENSE SITUATION

No rigorous or boring exercises are necessary. You learn in the comfort and privacy of your own home, either alone or with a friend, by looking and listening with our simple, effective audiovisual technique. You merely follow the pictures in our lesson book as you listen to each lesson on our SPECIAL LONG PLAYING 12" RECORD. What could be easier?

By playing this record over and over, the lessons become buried deep in your subconscious. Your mind is conditioned in the ancient Oriental disciplines of KUNG FU & KARATE—it develops a memory bank of specialized fighting knowledge. If you are attacked, you'll find yourself springing to action almost automatically, using this knowledge to defend yourself and those you love.

YOUR BODY BECOMES A POWERFUL WEAPON OF DEFENSE

We'll teach you how to use your hands, feet, arms, legs, elbows and knees as powerful weapons against any attacker. You'll learn the KUNG FU & KARATE techniques of the thrust punch, hammerfist, X & U punch, knife hand, spear hand, palm heel strike, snap kick, thrust kick, stamping kick, knee kick, elbow strike, backfist, X block, sweeping block, high and low blocks, and much, much more. You'll learn nerve centers and pressure points—where, when and how to hit effectively and avoid being hit yourself. You'll learn all the essential secrets of these two Oriental fighting arts—ancient secrets that have allowed smaller, weaker men to defeat larger, more powerful men with ease.

A NEW, CONFIDENT YOU

Take this course and feel like a new person. Never be afraid to go anywhere ever again—ball game, beach, school yard, bar, dance, tough neighborhood, back alley or parking lot at night. Gain self confidence and win the respect and admiration of those you love. Your cool, confident steel-like gaze will show others you are no person to fool around with. Feel a new power come over you—the power to master almost any self defense situation!

HERE'S WHAT YOU GET:



Our long playing 12" 33 1/3 RPM instruction record which contains 35 complete, separate and distinct lessons. It was specially produced to make the learning of the essential self defense techniques of KUNG FU & KARATE as inexpensive and easy as possible.



Complete picture lesson book containing over 135 photos and illustrations. While you are coached by the lesson record, each defensive movement is shown to you step-by-step by our instructor, TOYOTARO MIYAZAKI, BLACK BELT, 5TH DAN from the world famous KENKOUJUKU DOJO in TOKYO, JAPAN.



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Star Lee
PRESENTS:

THE GHOST RIDER!

RAIN...THERE'S ALWAYS BEEN RAIN ON YOUR PARADE, HASN'T THERE, JOHNNY BLAZE? YOU'RE A LOSER, AND YOU KNOW IT. YOU'VE ALWAYS KNOWN IT.

IT'S FUNNY IN A WAY. THE RAIN STARTED JUST AFTER ROXANNE WALKED OUT ON YOU, TELLING YOU IT'S ABOUT TIME THE GIRL GREW UP AND BECAME A WOMAN.*

*SEE LAST ISH FOR THE DETAILS. --LEN.

IT'S FUNNY, BECAUSE IT WAS RAINING THAT FIRST NIGHT, LONG MONTHS AGO, WHEN AGONY RIPPED YOUR BODY AND SOUL APART. THAT NIGHT WHEN SATAN'S CURSE REACHED UP FROM HELL AND MADE YOU WHAT YOU ARE TODAY. MADE YOU... THE...

GHOST RIDER

BET YOU'RE ALL WONDERING WHAT THIS STORY HAS TO DO WITH THE HULK ON THE COVER, HUH? WELL, THE DREADED DEADLINE DOOM WAS--YOU GUESSED IT--STRUCK AGAIN! BUT WE FIGURED THIS WOULD BE AS GOOD A PLACE AS ANY TO FILL IN THE UNENLIGHTENED AMONG YOU AS TO THE ORIGIN OF JOHNNY BLAZE!

CONCEIVED & WRITTEN BY:
GARY FRIEDRICH

DRAWN BY:
MIKE FLOOG

LETTERED BY:
JON CONSTANZA
AND ABETMENT
ROY THOMAS

EDITED BY: LEN WEIN

ORIGINALLY PRESENTED IN
MARVEL SPOTLIGHT #5.

SO SIT BACK, GENTLE READERS
ENJOY THE MAG, AND HOPEFULLY
--WE'LL BE BACK ON SCHEDULE
NEXT ISSUE.

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YOU SEE WHAT IS HAPPENING AS YOU SPEED DOWN A NEARLY DESERTED SIDE STREET...

KRAK

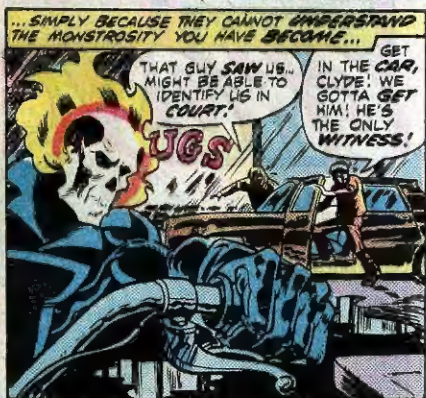


...AND YET YOUR TORTURED BRAIN CHOOSES NOT TO SEE IT... SO YOU RIDE ON...



...NEVER CONSIDERING THE FACT THAT YOU ARE DOOMED TO COME INTO CONTACT WITH NORMAL MEN...

...AND THAT THEY ARE DOOMED TO HOUND YOU... CHASE YOU... FOLLOW YOU INTO HELL IF NECESSARY...



...SIMPLY BECAUSE THEY CANNOT UNDERSTAND THE MONSTROSITY YOU HAVE BECOME...

THAT GUY SAW US... MIGHT BE ABLE TO IDENTIFY US IN COURT!

GET IN THE CAR, CLYDE! WE GOTTA GET HIM! HE'S THE ONLY WITNESS!



SUDDENLY, THEY'RE AFTER YOU... TRYING TO RUN YOU DOWN...

WHY... WHY NOW? I CAN'T LET ANYONE SEE ME... NOT LIKE THIS!

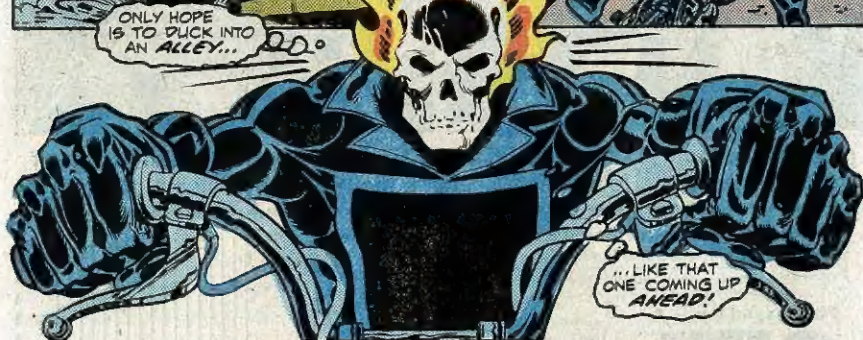
HAVE TO SHARE THEM SOMEHOW... KEEP THEM FROM SEEING WHAT'S HAPPENED TO ME!



WE'RE CATCHING UP WITH 'IM! ANOTHER BLOCK OR SO... AND HE'LL BE DEAD MEAT!

I HOPE YOU'RE RIGHT... BUT THAT GLOW FROM HIS HEAD'S GIVIN' ME THE CREEPS!

PROBABLY JUST A LUMINOUS HELMET! NOTHING A BULLET WON'T STOP!



CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

Read this story if
you want to...

"GET IT ALL TOGETHER"

...when you get out
of the service

ONE DAY A FEW MONTHS AFTER WE BOTH GOT
OUT OF THE SERVICE, I RAN INTO MY OLD BUDDY, PETE.

PETE! HOW YOU
MAKING OUT?

NOT TOO GOOD, JOE. I
CAN'T SEEM TO HACK IT...
NO JOB I CAN GET
PAYS ANY
MONEY.



LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE
DOING ALL RIGHT,
THOUGH.

I'LL SAY! I'M IN
ELECTRONICS AND
HAVE MY FCC LICENSE



ELECTRONICS!
HOW'D YOU WORK
THAT, JOE?

CIE, PETE! CIE
HELPED ME LEARN
ELECTRONICS ON MY
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THE SEVENTIES, MAN.



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THOR! DR. STRANGE!

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IT'S OVER... AND MY SECRET IS SAFE... BUT... WHAT ABOUT THE NEXT TIME?

WILL I EVER BE... FREE?!

OR AM I DOOMED TO A DUAL LIFE... MAN BY DAY... AND MONSTER BY NIGHT?!

HAVE TO STOP THINKING ABOUT IT... PERHAPS WORK...

PLY YOUR TRADE, JOHNNY BLAZE! BURY YOUR TORTURED MIND IN THE DEADLY DANGER THAT IS YOUR LIVELIHOOD...

WE HAVE TO DO A *SHOW* THIS AFTERNOON! I'M TO GO FOR THE **WORLD JUMP RECORD!** HAVE TO CONCENTRATE ON THAT!

MADISON SQUARE GARDEN PRESENTS **THE AMAZING JOHNNY BLAZE and HIS CYCLE!** SPECTACULAR! ALSO STARRING ROXANNE SIMPSON and THE WORLD'S GREATEST CYCLE PARADEVILS

WON'DN'T WANT TO MISS... AND DIE... BEFORE A FEW THOUSAND PAYING CUSTOMERS, NOW-- WOULD I?

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DAILY NEWS

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

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WALLACE W. WEUMANN

Author of "SUPER KARATE" and "SUPER KARATE 2" is the ONLY instructor in the Northeast U.S. recommended by the International Karate Federation.

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YOUR BODY IS YOUR PROTECTION!
The result of hundreds of years of development in Japan, KARATE is the Oriental system of self-

defense to which you turn your hands, arms and legs into deadly, powerful weapons.

When you know how to use KARATE, you learn not to use your opponent's strength. When you apply KARATE techniques, you can cut an aggressor down with a blow of the side of your hand. You can kick an aggressor and slam him into the ground. (In fact, a Karate Master, as shown in recent magazine photos, is a 115-lb. girl slandering her 340-lb. instructor into the practice mat.)

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BUT YOU CAN'T CONCENTRATE
ON YOUR RIDING...NOT AFTER
WHAT YOU'VE BEEN THROUGH...

HAVE TO THINK
BACK... TRY TO
REMEMBER **HOW**
IT HAPPENED...

...AND PRAY I CAN
FIND AN **ANSWER**...
SOMEWHERE IN
THE **PAST!**

JOHNNY
BLAZE

THE CYCLE
SNOW: THAT'S
WHEN IT ALL
STARTED...

THE DR. BARTON BLAZE
DEFIED DEATH ONCE TOO OFTEN...

CRASH
SIMPS

HIS
FLYING
MOTOR

DEATH
DEFYING

...AND PAID THE
ONLY PRICE
POSSIBLE--HIS
LIFE!

YOUR FATHER
WAS A **BRAVE**
MAN, JOHNNY.
AND WE'RE
SORRY HE WAS
KILLED!

AND SINCE YOU
DON'T HAVE A **MOTHER**...
SOMETHING'S GOING TO
HAVE TO BE **DONE**
WITH YOU!

IF YOU **LIKE**...
YOU CAN STAY
WITH US...AND
WE'LL RAISE
YOU LIKE A **SON**.
OR YOU CAN GO
TO AN **ORPHAN-**
AGE!

OH, PLEASE
STAY WITH US,
JOHNNY.
PLEASE!

WHATEVER
YOU SAY,
ROXANNE

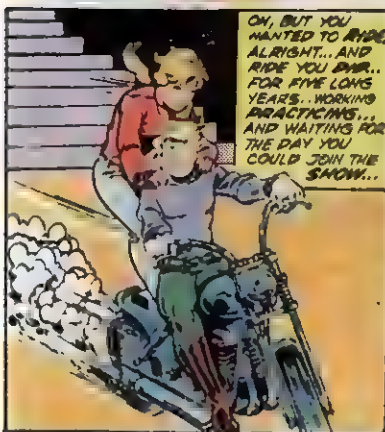


AND SO YOU STAYED OVER... CAME YOUR FEAR OF MOTORCYCLES AND LONGED FOR THE DAY WHEN YOU COULD RIDE AND LOOK STRAIGHT IN THE EYE.

UNTIL, FINALLY, THAT FATEFUL DAY CAME... ALTHOUGH AYES, SIMPSON DIDN'T APPROVE

WASH SIMPSON
DAN SIMPSON
CYCLE SHOW

DON'T RUSH W.H. CRASH MAYBE HE DOESN'T WANT TO RIDE



OH, BUT YOU WANTED TO RIDE... ALRIGHT... AND RIDE YOU DID... FOR FIVE LONG YEARS... WORKING PRACTICING... AND WAITING FOR THE DAY YOU COULD JOIN THE SHOW...



THEN, WHEN YOU WERE FIFTEEN...

JOHNNY... THE BIKES ON FIRE!

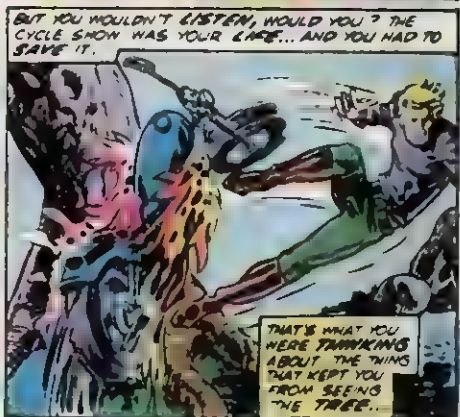
JUMP ROCKY... JUMP!



GET OFF, JOHNNY! IT'S GOING TO EXPLODE!

I CAN'T! HAVE TO GET OUT OF THE TENT FIRST

DON'T WORRY ABOUT THAT! JUST SAVE YOURSELF!



BUT YOU WOULDN'T LISTEN, WOULD YOU? THE CYCLE SHOW WAS YOUR LIFE... AND YOU HAD TO SAVE IT.

THAT'S WHAT YOU WERE THINKING ABOUT THE THING THAT KEPT YOU FROM SEEING THE TREE...

WHO ELSE WANTS A HE-MAN BODY?

Tired of watching others grab the best jobs, the most attention, the prettiest girls? Let me show you how I can make you a real he-man!

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SHE WASN'T EVEN RELATED TO YOU... STILL, SHE'D RAISED YOU AND GIVEN HER LIFE FOR YOU.

JOHNNY... I MUST SPEAK TO JOHNNY. COME CLOSER PLEASE



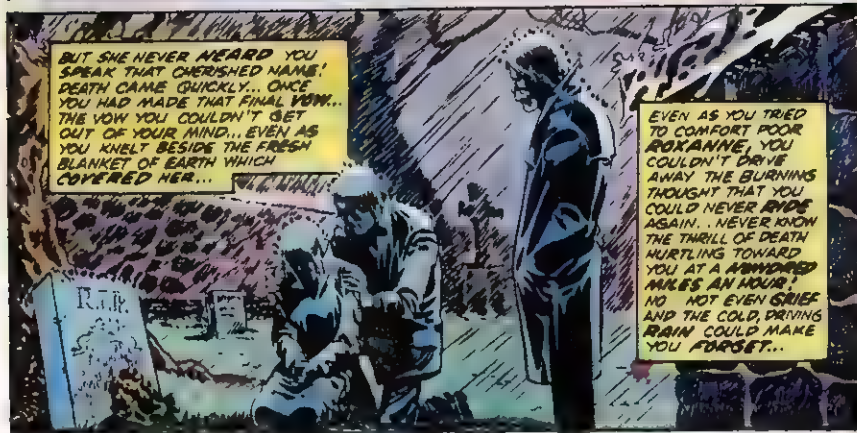
SO THERE WAS NO WAY YOU COULD DENY HER LAST REQUEST...

JOHNNY... PROMISE ME... YOU'LL NEVER RIDE IN THE SHOW PROMISE ME... PLEASE!

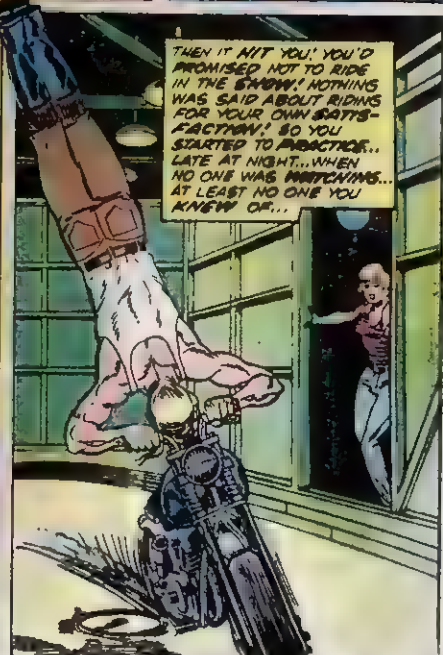
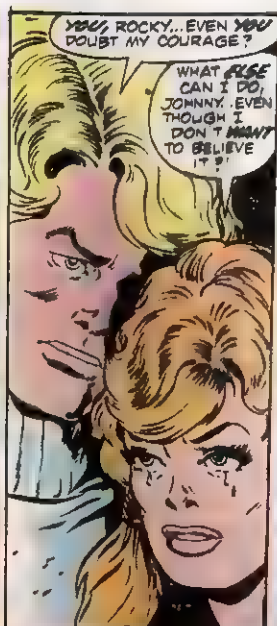
I PROMISE YOU, MOTHER. I ALWAYS WANTED TO CALL YOU THAT... AND NOW... IT'S TOO LATE!



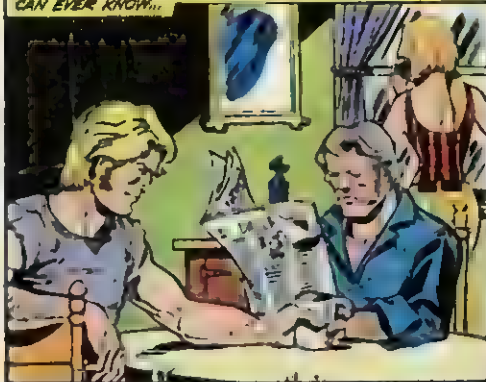
BUT SHE NEVER HEARD YOU SPEAK THAT CHERISHED NAME! DEATH CAME QUICKLY... ONCE YOU HAD MADE THAT FINAL VOW... THE VOW YOU COULDN'T GET OUT OF YOUR MIND... EVEN AS YOU KNELT BESIDE THE FRESH BLANKET OF EARTH WHICH COVERED HER...



EVEN AS YOU TRIED TO COMFORT POOR ROXANNE, YOU COULDN'T DRIVE AWAY THE BURNING THOUGHT THAT YOU COULD NEVER RIDE AGAIN... NEVER KNOW THE THRILL OF DEATH HURTLING TOWARD YOU AT A HUNDRED MILES AN HOUR! NO NOT EVEN GRIEF AND THE COLD, DRIVING RAIN COULD MAKE YOU FORGET...



ARRIVING... ANOTHER CITY... ANOTHER HOTEL ROOM...
AND A SIMPLE PHONE CALL... A CALL WHICH WILL
CHANGE YOUR LIFE MORE DRASTICALLY THAN YOU
CAN EVER KNOW...



OH... HI, ALFIE!
ANY NEWS ON
THE BIG ONE...
OR IS IT
ANOTHER SOCIAL
CALL?

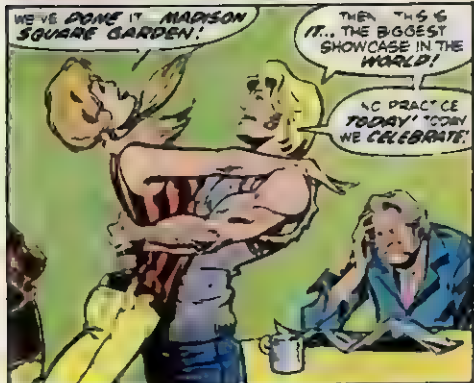
WHAT... YOU
REALLY GOT
IT? YOU
WOULDN'T
PUT US ON?
I ILL CALL
YOU RIGHT
BACK!



WE'VE DONE IT MADISON
SQUARE GARDEN!

THEN THIS IS
IT... THE BIGGEST
SHOWCASE IN THE
WORLD!

NO PRACTICE
TODAY! TODAY
WE CELEBRATE!



HOW ABOUT IT,
CRASH? AFTER ALL
THESE YEARS OF
STRUGGLING...

THE CRASH
SIMPSON CYCLE
SPECTACULAR
WAS HIT THE TOP!



YEAH YOU'RE RIGHT
BIG DEAL!

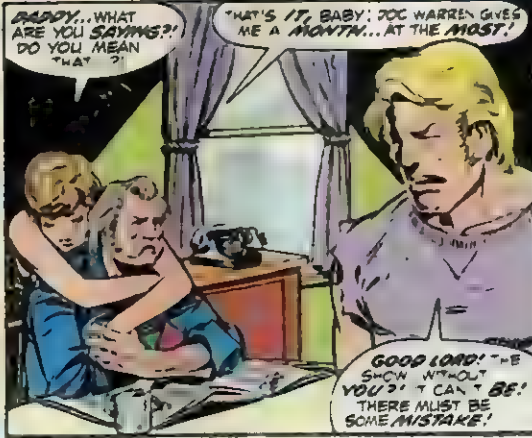
I RISK MY LIFE
EVERY DAY FOR
THIRTY YEARS...
AND THEN WHEN
I FINALLY REACH
MY GOAL...

THE DOC
TELLS ME I
MAY NOT
LIVE TO
SEE IT!

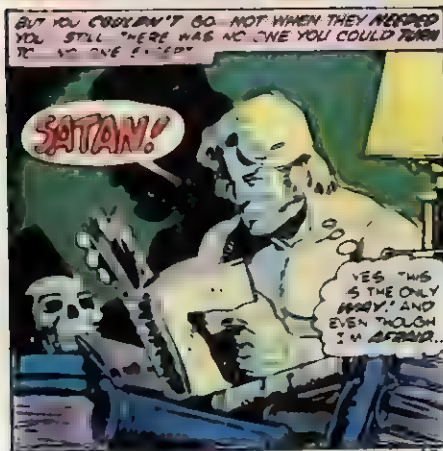
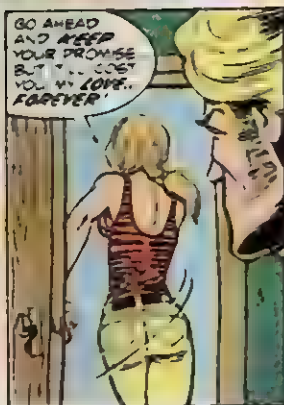
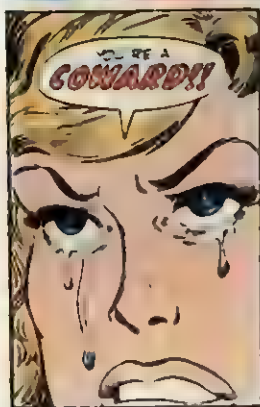
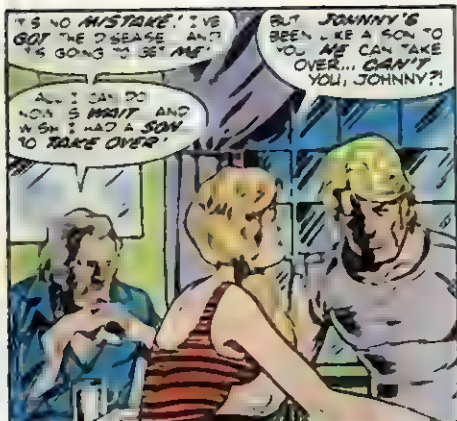


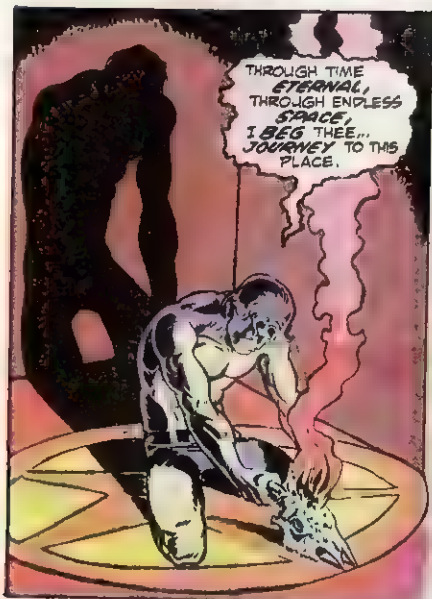
BABY... WHAT
ARE YOU SAYING?
DO YOU MEAN
THAT?

THAT'S IT, BABY! DOC WARREN GIVES
ME A MONTH... AT THE MOST!

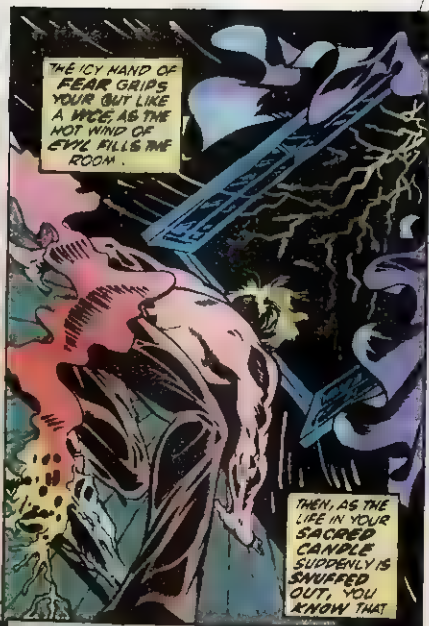


GOOD LORD! THE
SHOW WITHOUT
YOU? I CAN'T BE!
THERE MUST BE
SOME MISTAKE!





THROUGH TIME
ETERNAL,
THROUGH ENDLESS
SPACE,
I BEG THEE...
JOURNEY TO THIS
PLACE.



THE ICY HAND OF
FEAR GRIPS
YOUR BUT LIKE
A WEE, AS THE
HOT WIND OF
EVIL FILLS THE
ROOM.

THEN, AS THE
LIFE IN YOUR
SACRED
CANDLE
SUDDENLY IS
SNUFFED
OUT, YOU
KNOW THAT



...HE HAS
ARRIVED!!

YOU HAVE CALLED...
AND SATAN HAS
ANSWERED! FROM
THE DEPTHS OF
HELL... I COME TO
AID HIM WHO WILL
SERVE ME!

YES...YES!
GRANT MY WISH...
AND I WILL SERVE
YOU FAITHFULLY
THROUGH ALL
ETERNITY!

I ASK ONLY...
THAT CRASH
SIMPSON...
BE SPARED FROM
THE DEADLY DISEASE
WHICH IS KILLING
HIM.



IT IS
DONE!

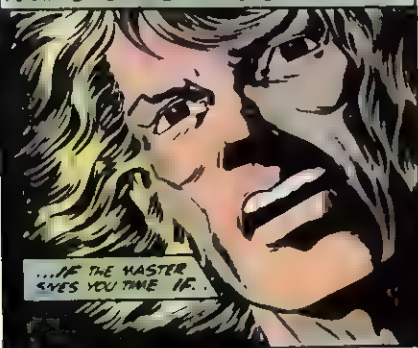
BUT BE WARNED...
ONE DAY SOON, I WILL
RETURN...TO
COLLECT MY DUE!

THEN, AS QUICKLY AS IT
BEGAN... IT IS
ENDED...



THE ROCK COOLS..
AND THE SICKENING
STENCH OF DEATH
FADES FROM YOUR
NOSTRILS! THE
SACRED CANDLE
BURNS ONCE MORE
AND YOU KNOW THAT
HE'S GONE! THE
BARGAIN HAS BEEN
SEALED...

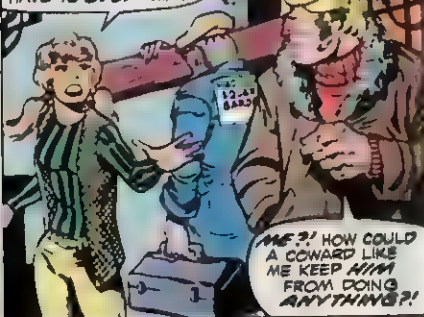
YOU KNOW ONLY ONE END... AND YET,
YOU FEEL STRANGELY RELIEVED... AS IF A
GREAT WEIGHT HAS BEEN LIFTED FROM
YOUR SHOULDERS! CRASH WILL LIVE... AND
PERHAPS ROXANNE WILL LOVE YOU AGAIN



...IF THE MASTER
GIVES YOU TIME IF...

THREE WEEKS PASS... AND YOU FIND YOURSELF
IN NEW YORK... MADISON SQUARE
GARDEN...

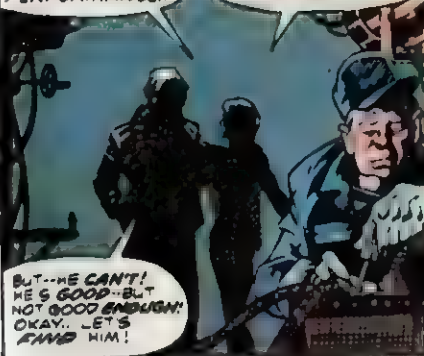
JOHNNY... IT'S DAD!
COME QUICK! YOU
HAVE TO STOP HIM!



ME?! HOW COULD
A COWARD LIKE
ME KEEP HIM
FROM DOING
ANYTHING?!

PLEASE, JOHNNY!
HE THINKS THIS
MAY BE HIS LAST
PERFORMANCE...

AND HE'S ANNOUNCED
THAT HE'LL TRY FOR
THE WORLD'S CYCLE
JUMP RECORD!



BUT--HE CAN'T!
HE'S GOOD--BUT
NOT GOOD ENOUGH!
OKAY... LET'S
FIND HIM!

ARE YOU OFF
YOUR ROCKER,
CRASH? YOU'RE
GOING TO KILL
YOURSELF

SO WHAT?! IF I'M
GONNA GO... IT'S GONNA
BE HERE... ON MY
BIKE! NOT IN SOME
HOSPITAL BED!



CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

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HR-11 HULK - \$4.29
Plus \$5.00 for postage & handling

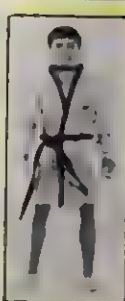
Spider-Man Toys

IDEAL FOR GIFTS

So who says
we have a monopoly
supplying Santa?



HR-13 SPIDEY™
SMART GUN
\$1.29 Plus \$5.00*



HR-12 KUNG-FU
FIGHTER.
Push-button action!
With real "kick and
chop" motion!
\$2.99 Plus \$5.00*

Marvel Superheroes!



HR-17 SPIDER-MAN
\$4.29 Plus \$5.00*



HR-18 CAPT. AMERICA
\$2.99 Plus \$5.00*

*They're 8" tall and made of durable, bendable, poseable plastic, with costumes made of real cloth. Make up your own Marvel Comics adventures!



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World-famous
Crazy Farm in the
wildest country
ever!
Only \$1.29 Plus \$5.00*



HR-14 SPIDER-MAN™ STUNT CYCLE
The greatest 1 wheel bike ever built, and
uses hundreds of doredevil stands. \$1.29 Plus \$5.00*



HR-16 SPIDER-WHOLE
Battery operated Spider-Man dune buggy - as soon
as the comic books themselves!
\$5.95 Plus \$5.00*

*For postage and handling

Please send me

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HR-13 \$1.29 plus \$5.00 Total
HR-14 \$1.29 plus \$5.00 Total
HR-15 \$1.29 plus \$5.00 Total
HR-16 \$5.95 plus \$5.00 Total
HR-17 \$4.29 plus \$5.00 Total
HR-18 \$2.99 plus \$5.00 Total

Send to: MARVEL COMICS GROUP
Merchandise Dept.
375 Madison Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10017

New York and New
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AGE

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

*For postage & handling

No cash please - check or money order only

Never finished high school?

**Now you can get a diploma
without going back**

You already know why it's important to have a high school education. You've probably learned the hard way that it can be a mighty big handicap when you don't have enough education — no matter how hard you work at your job.

What can you do about it?

Maybe you've thought of trying again to get a diploma. But you've suffered enough classroom "battle fatigue" to last you a lifetime. So you'd hate to travel that route again even if you could.

But what if we told you that there was now a much better way to get a high school education? An adult way, which gives you regular high school subjects and your choice of practical business and vocational subjects which give you background for one of a number of career fields.

That's the unique Wayne School way. You do your reading and assignments in your spare time, in the relaxed atmosphere of your own home, and "turn in" your completed assignments by mail. You don't have to give up your present job. You don't have to study or travel to class at inconvenient times.

Wayne School
wants to help you finish
high school at home

And you needn't be afraid of dropping out all over again, if you had trouble with school before. Wayne's specially prepared lessons make even difficult subjects much easier to take. And Wayne grades your assignments in private, by mail. You're free from competitive classroom pressures. You stay relaxed, and your progress is much smoother.

If you're 17 or over and not now in school, why not send for more information? Mail coupon for our free booklet, "*How to finish High School at home.*" You're in for a pleasant surprise. And there's no obligation.

Send for free facts

Wayne School

A leader in home study

417 S. Dearborn Street. Dept. 60-006
Chicago, Illinois 60605

Please rush me your free illustrated booklet
"*How to finish High School at home*" containing full information about your courses.

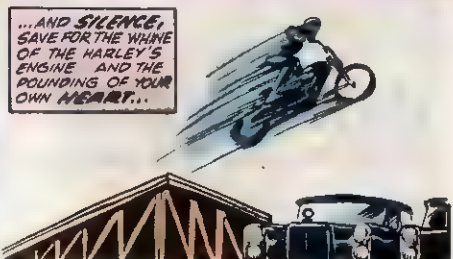
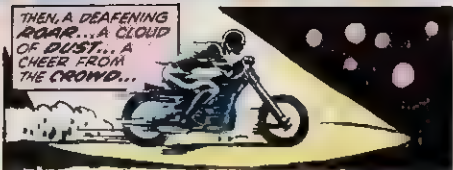
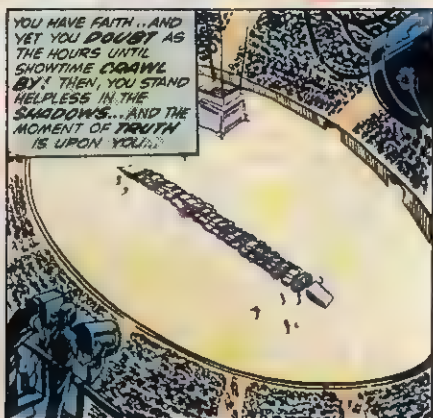
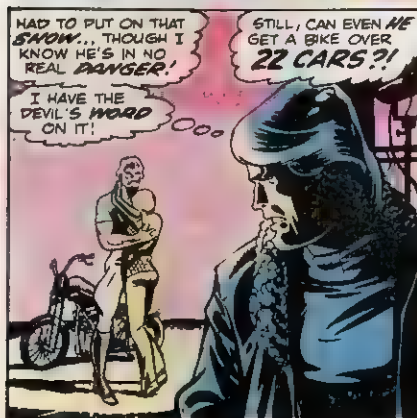
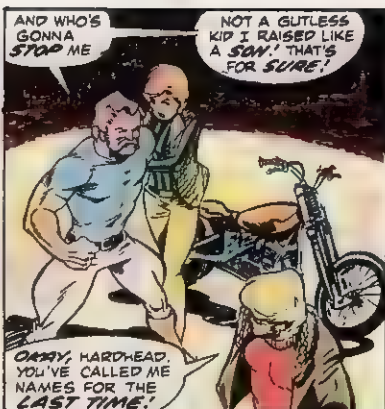
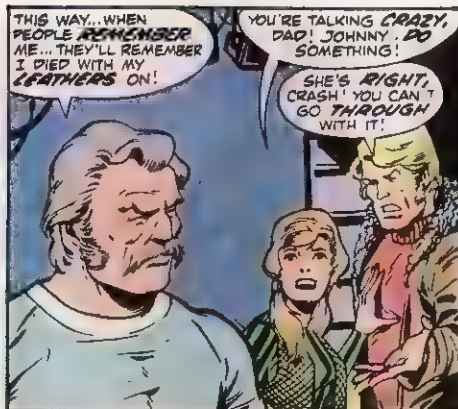
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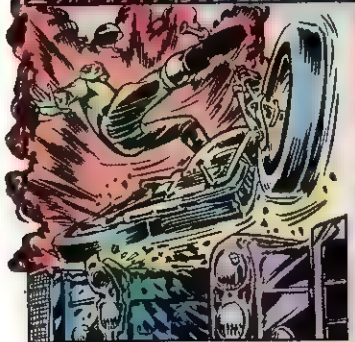
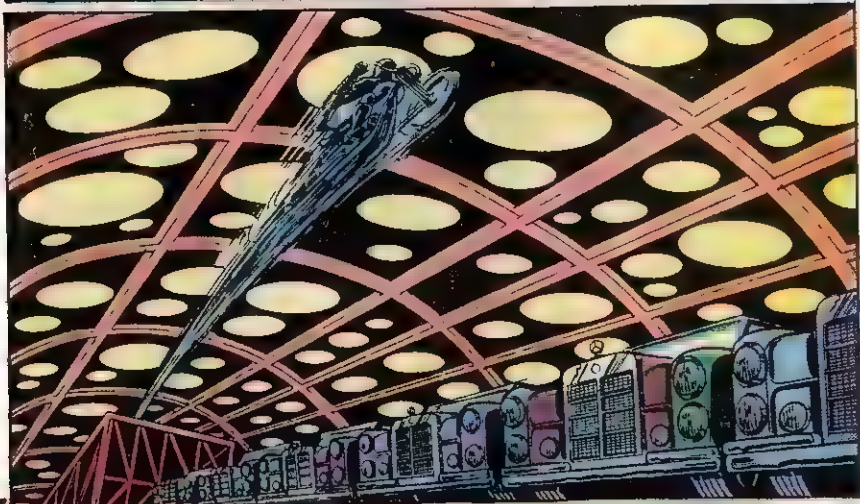
Address _____ Apt. No. _____

City _____

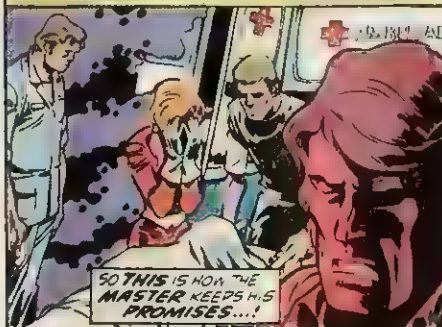
State _____ Zip _____

W24





YOU WATCH IN STUNNED SILENCE AS THE MANGLED
BROKEN BODY IS PLACED ON A STRETCHER...
AND YOU LISTEN TO ROXANNE'S APOLOGIZED SOBS...



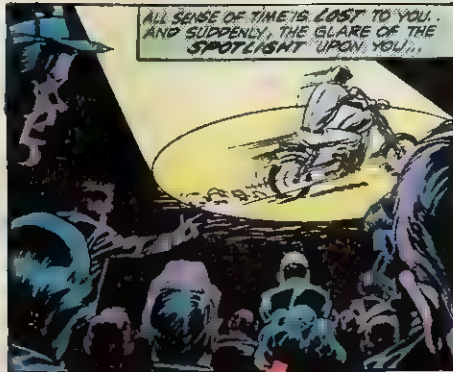
SO THIS IS HOW THE
MASTER KEEPS HIS
PROMISES...

THEN, BLINDED BY
RAGE AND GRIEF,
YOU KNOW WHAT
YOU MUST DO...

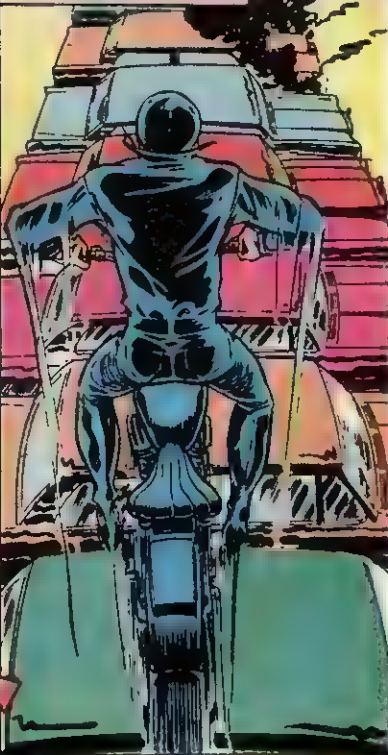


TELL THE ANNOUNCER
TO ADD THE CROWD,
SAM! I'M GOING
TO MAKE THE
JUMP!

ALL SENSE OF TIME IS LOST TO YOU.
AND SUDDENLY, THE GLARE OF THE
SPOTLIGHT UPON YOU...



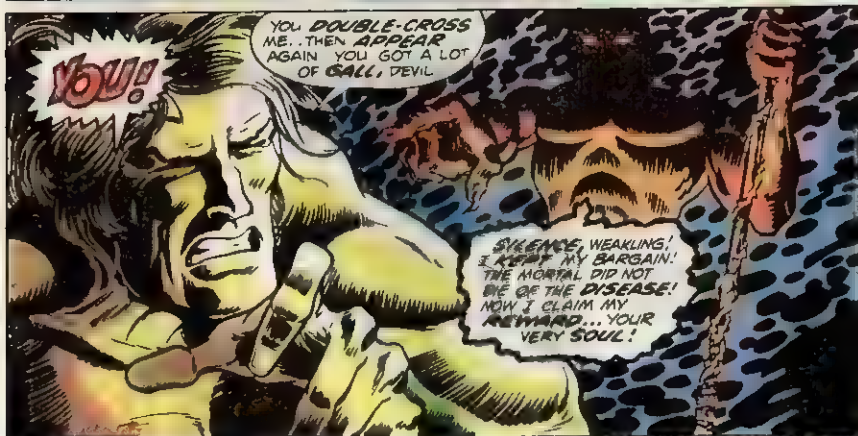
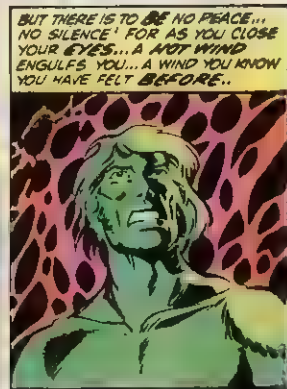
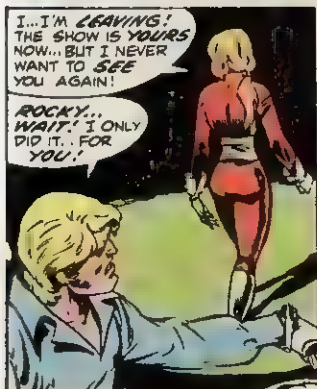
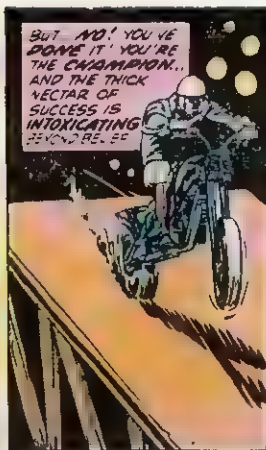
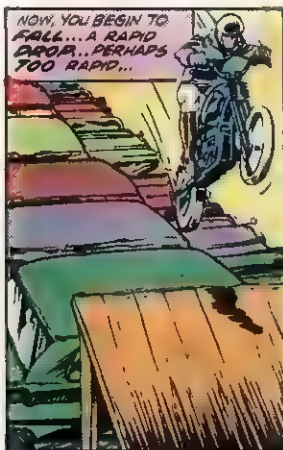
BLOOD RACES THROUGH YOUR TEMPLES...
FEAR GRIPS YOUR HEART... YOU FEEL THE
BIKE LOSE CONTACT WITH THE GROUND...
AND A THRILL SURGES THROUGHOUT YOUR
BODY... A THRILL LIKE YOU'VE NEVER EXPERI-
ENCED BEFORE... AS YOU SOAR THROUGH
SPACE... KNOWING AT THE END, THERE WILL BE
TRIUMPH...OR DEATH...?



YOU'RE OBVIOUS TO THE
GASPS OF THE CROWD...
EVEN TO THE SCREAMS OF
ROXANNE... AS ONE THOUGHT
BURNS IN YOUR MIND...
YOU MUST MAKE THE
JUMP... FOR
HIM!

JOHNNY... NOOOO!
PLEASE... DON'T
DO IT!
DON'T!





PAEANS AND SELF-PLAUDITS FROM THE PUNDITS OF PANDEMONIUM!

STAN LEE'S SOAPBOX

Hang in there, hero! We've got a couple of mind-blowin' items for you this month, so let's zero right in. First, how lucky can you be? You'll be seeing more sensational stories than ever from ol' ROY THOMAS from now on. Yep, the Rascally One has been itching to devote more of his time to writing, and he's finally decided to take the plunge. Hence, from this day forth, our award-winning editor becomes Editor Emeritus, a title he so richly deserves, as I hereby announce (and not without a twinge of envy), that he'll be scripting more Marvel masterworks than ever before. So here's to the youngest titleholder in all of Emeritusdom long may he reign! Next ish we'll describe our new editorial lineup in detail but for now—onward!

It hadda happen! There's another Comics Con a-comin'! But not just any other comics book convention—nope this time it's a MARVEL CON! That's right—during Easter vacation time your batty Bulpen is putting together one of the most exciting projects of the year for Marveldom Assembled. At a major New York hotel we'll be holding the biggest, brassiest, brain-blastingest Marvel convention of all time! It'll be three full days of fun, fantasy, and fan heaven as you mingle with the greatest names in the Marvel galaxy! So, if you're planning a go-away vacation during Easter, we just wanna alert you—New York's where it'll all be happening! More info next month!

One last word, gang. I'm really overwhelmed by all the college lecture offers you've been tossing this way. I wish there was time to accept each one but I want you to know I'm frantically trying to juggle my schedule so I can do as many as possible. I don't know whether all of academia wants to hear about Marvel or if you're just trying to keep me on the move so I won't have time to write any more Soapboxes! But whatever it is, keep those cards and letters comin', folks! And remember, it's time to take a load to lunch!

Excelsior!

Stan

Now, after cutting his incisors on a Morbius tale or two in the pages of ADVENTURES INTO FEAR, Frank has stepped in to give our pal SAL BUSCEMA a well-earned rest from the pages of CAPTAIN AMERICA—and to team up with Roy the Boy on a brand new 50¢ title due to debut early in '75. Its title? THE INVADERS! (Who's going to be in this newest, most exciting supergroup? We'll leave you guessing for a month or so, pilgrim. Suffice it to say that we think the lineup of this liltin' legion is going to catch nearly everybody off guard, and that Free-wheelin' Frank will definitely have his hands full!)

ITEM! Speaking of artist switches, it's nostalgia time, as Genial GENE COLAN once more takes over the reins of our DR. STRANGE strip. Remember those cabalistic classics of yesteryear? Well, get set to have 'em all eclipsed by the new team of COLAN, JANSON, and ENGELHART! As for Doc's previous artist, far-out FRANK BRUNNER, he's keeping busy on one of the most-requested back-up features of all time. Yep, we're talking about none other than HOWARD THE DUCK, who's now appearing regularly in the pages of our quarterly GIANT-SIZE MAN-THING mag (where else?). When you ask for things long enough and loud enough round Marveldom you get 'em! (Okay, okay, we know, we know—so where's the Silver Surfer?)

ITEM! In case you haven't noticed, we've added a new 50¢ center or two as well. Still on sale, hopefully, is our new GIANT-SIZE KID COLT title, which spotlights the wildest new western team-ups ever. And this month sees GIANT-SIZE CHILLERS #1, with art by ALCALA, ALCAZAR, and right on thru the alphabet with Marvel's greatest mystery artists. What's more, December will herald the way-outest new mag of all—

GIANT-SIZE SUPER-VILLAIN TEAM-UP, co-starring (just for starters, mind you) Dr. Doom and the savage Sub-Mariner! How's that for an off-the-wall blockbuster announcement! (Well, if that doesn't hold you, how about this? THE X-MEN are coming back, in brand new tales, in a giant-size mag due to debut just a couple of short months from now! We could've held back on that one, but we wanted to give all you mutant boosters a chance to start saving your radioactive shekels.)

ITEM! Oh, and just so you don't think you've gone completely bananas, we thought we'd best clue you in that, due to circumstances beyond our control, the first issue of our new \$1 magazine MARVEL PREVIEW (introducing the long-awaited new feature "Man-Gods From Beyond The Stars") was delayed at the last possible moment, and will be on sale in the next few weeks instead of right now, as we announced last issue. Sorry about that, friends, but we wanted to polish that gem up just right for you. Meanwhile, though, the premiere ish of our new \$1 s-f title, UNKNOWN WORLDS OF SCIENCE FICTION, is on sale—complete with comic-strip versions of stories like Wyndham's *Day of the Triffids* masterpiece, Bob Shaw's stunning "Slow Glass" tales, plus art and story by the likes of COLAN, CONWAY, FREAS, ADAMS, WILLIAMSON, ISABELLA, KALUTA, and that illustrious ilk. Plus an exclusive, photo-filled interview with the one and only RAY BRADBURY! Face it, effendi!—if science fiction's ever gonna make it in the comics medium, this is the one! Only a buck for 84 big-pages, and worth every hoarded penny—at your newsstands now!

End of unabashed plug—end of Bulpen Page! We return you now to our regularly-scheduled comic-mag!

MIGHTY MARVEL STRIKES AGAIN!

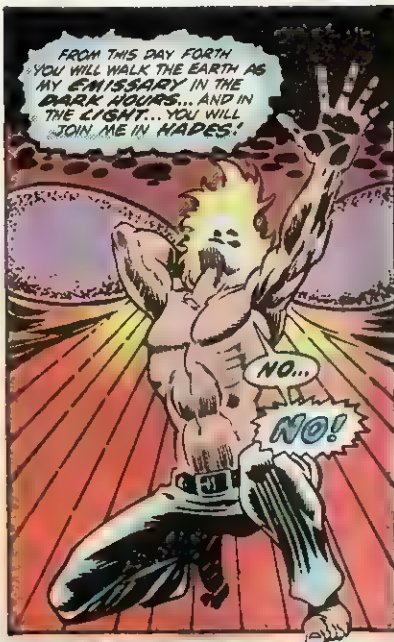
FIRST, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN--NEXT THE FABULOUS FANTASTIC FOUR--NOW, THE POWER-PACKED PRINCE OF ASGARD LASHES OUT IN HIS OWN KING-SIZED SPECIAL! WITH PARDONABLE PRIDE, YOUR BATTY BULPEN PRESENTS THE LATEST--POSSIBLY THE GREATEST--OF ITS DOUBLE-SIZED TREASURY EDITIONS!



ON SALE SOON!

THOR

ITEM! Let's roll out the red carpet for Free-wheelin' FRANK ROBBINS, Marvel's newest artist and bon vivant! As many of you know, Frank's the artist and writer of the newspaper comic-strip "Johnny Hazard," and is considered by his peers to be one of the finest craftsmen in the business



FROM THIS DAY FORTH
YOU WILL WALK THE EARTH AS
MY EMISSARY IN THE
DARK HOURS... AND IN
THE LIGHT... YOU WILL
JOIN ME IN NADES!

NO...

NO!

BUT, AS YOU FEEL THE
FLESH BURNING FROM
YOUR FACE AS YOU
SCREAM IN AGONY... A
DOOR OPENS... AND THE
ONE BEING WHO CAN
SAVE YOU... ENTERS...

JOHNNY I
WANTED TO--
NO...NO!!

I SUSPECTED
IT BUT I
DIDN'T WANT TO
BELIEVE IT

AND WHILE THE FIRE IN
YOUR BRAIN RAGES OUT
OF CONTROL... SHE
FLINGS HERSELF ACROSS
YOU...

BACK, O FOUL
DENIZEN OF THE
DEPTHS! AS THE
CROSS IS TO A VAM-
PIRE... SO IS THE
PRESENCE OF ONE
PURE IN HEART TO YOU!

DISAPPEAR... I
COMMAND YOU! OR
THE FORCES OF
GOOD WITHIN ME
WILL
DESTROY
YOU!

I DEPART, CURSED
WOMAN! BUT I SHALL
RETURN... TO CLAIM
WHAT IS OWED ME!

ONCE MORE THE WIND RAGES...
THE ODOR DISAPPEARS AND
THE FERY PAIN ENDS!

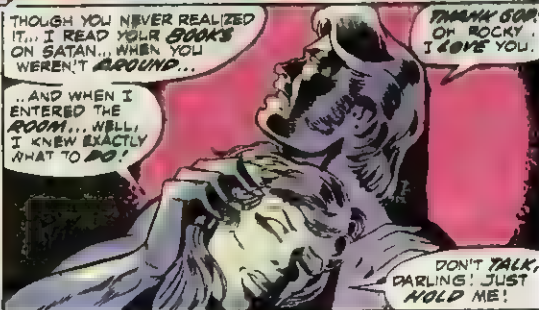
IT'S ALL RIGHT, DARLING
HE'S GONE... NEVER TO
RETURN AS LONG AS I
STAY WITH YOU.



BUT... I DON'T
UNDERSTAND!
HOW DID YOU
KNOW... P.

THOUGH YOU NEVER REALIZED
IT... I READ YOUR BOOKS
ON SATAN... WHEN YOU
WEREN'T AROUND...

...AND WHEN I
ENTERED THE
ROOM... WELL,
I KNEW EXACTLY
WHAT TO DO!



THANK GOD!
OH ROCKY,
I LOVE YOU.

DON'T TALK,
DARLING! JUST
HOLD ME!

YES, NESTLED IN HER ARMS, YOU
FEEL SO SAFE... SO FREE...
BUT THE FOLLOWING NIGHT...
AS DARKNESS STEALS OVER
THE CITY...

HEAD...
THROBBING!
FEEL LIKE...
I'M BURNING
WITH
FEVER!



COULD IT BE? WHAT IN--?
NO! LORD, DON'T
LET IT HAPPEN!

FOR WHAT SEEMS AN ETERNITY...
THE SEARING PAIN BRINGS YOU
TO THE BRINK OF INSANITY!
THEN, SUDDENLY, IT SUBSIDED...
BUT YOU KNOW SOMETHING HAS
CHANGED...



AND YOU RUSHED
TO A HARBOR...
TO FIND...



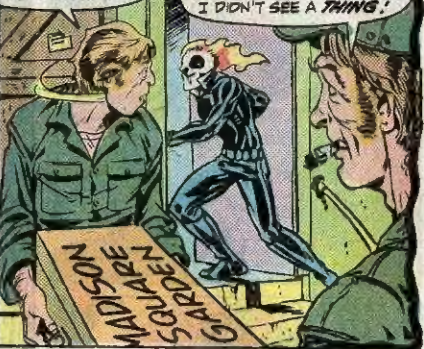
WHEN THE SHOCK
BEGINS TO EBB,
YOU KNOW WHAT
YOU MUST DO...
YOU HAVE TO
RUN... GET
AWAY... NOT
LET ANYONE
SEE YOU...
NOT LIKE
THAT...



SO YOU FLEE... INTO THE NIGHT... NOT
REALIZING YOU HAVE BEEN SEEN...

HEY... WHAT THE
DEVIL'S THAT?!

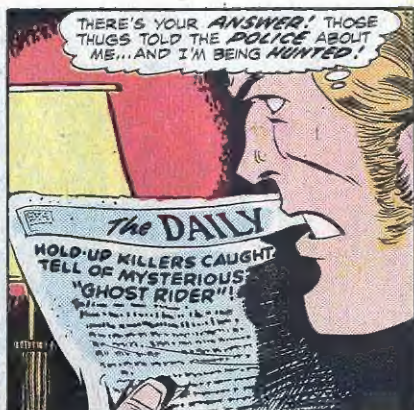
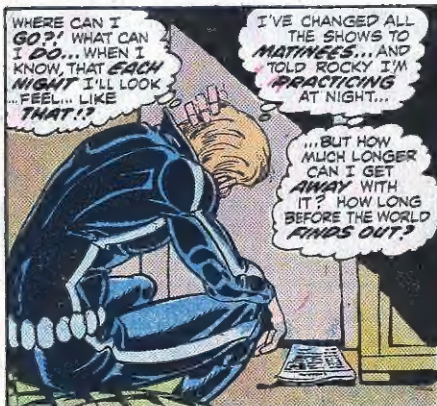
I DUNNO ABOUT YOU...
BUT I'M GONNA PRETEND
I DIDN'T SEE A THING!



THUS IT ENDS... THE DEADLY WARNING
DREAM WHICH HAS SEEMED SO
REAL... SO PALPABLE...

YES, ENDS... ONLY TO BECOME THE LIVING
NIGHTMARE IT HAS BEEN FOR THREE WEEKS
NOW... A NIGHTMARE WHICH SEEMINGLY NEVER WILL
END... A CURSE FROM WHICH THERE IS NO ESCAPE...
A HORRIFYING TRAP FROM WHICH DEATH WOULD SEEM
A SWEET RESPITE...!





THIS IS HOW THE SAGA OF JOHNNY BLAZE BEGAN SO MANY ISSUES AGO. TO SEE WHERE IT'S GOING, GET AHEAD OF NEXT ISSUE, WHEREIN-- FINALLY-- THE GHOST RIDER MEETS: THE HULK!!



I'll guide you step by step into your own thriving business

● While keeping your present job, would you like to gross \$14 or \$21 profit per hour?

a true story by Bob Ferrel

many things we could not afford before. My efforts were so much more productive. I scheduled my time to my own liking. When we wanted a day or two off, we took it. I worked hard but, if I wanted to be home early or quit at noon, I did.

This is not a business for a lazy man. But if a man is ambitious and will work to deserve those nice things in life we all want, this business is made to order for such a man.

I became so enthusiastic about this business and so appreciative of what it has brought my family that, whenever a man opened a dealership near me, I helped him get a quick start.

The company learned about this and had each new dealer in my section of Michigan spend a day with me. One day the president of Duraclean Company asked me how I would like to move to Headquarters and spend my entire time helping dealers to increase their sales and profits.

That was good news to my ears. Since then I have worked with hundreds of our dealers in their own towns and at regional meetings, conventions and dealer group meetings. But much of the time I am right here at my desk in touch with our dealers by letter and telephone.

Incidentally I sold my dealership at a good profit. Dealers sell their Duraclean businesses for up to ten times their cost. After 30 months, Leo Rubel sold for \$7,116 above his cost. If for any reason a dealer wants to sell, we maintain a service to locate buyers and help him sell.

Our job here at headquarters is to show each individual Duraclean dealer how to use his own abilities to bring him greatest success. I know hundreds of our dealers on a first name basis. We work together as one happy family. If you become a Duraclean dealer, I'll be as close to you as your telephone or mail box.

It's Easier than You Think

To Build Your Own Business

If you've wanted to BE YOUR OWN BOSS... to become financially independent and have a fast growing income, now YOU CAN. And you own a Nationally Advertised business.

You can stay at your present job while your customer list grows... then switch to full time, lining up jobs for your servicemen to do. One job a day brings a good starting income.

If you hire two servicemen (full or part time) while you keep your job, the national price guide provides you a gross profit of \$14 an hour on their work and this is much easier to do than you think. We show you how... step by step. That's \$490 for a 35 hour week.

Your gross profit on three servicemen is \$21 per hour. Duraclean dealers find it easy to gross \$7 per hour on EACH serviceman plus \$12 an hour on any service they themselves render. The 24 page illustrated booklet we'll mail you (with no obligation) explains how most of your gross profit becomes clear net profit. Your income is limited only by the number of servicemen you employ.

You can operate from a shop, office, or your home. Equipment is light and portable.

At the start, you may want to render service yourself... or you can start with full or part time servicemen. This business is easy to learn... easy to start... an easy to service that women dealers do it. We prefer you have no experience... not have to "unlearn" old ways.

We are NOW enlarging this worldwide system of individually-owned service businesses. If you are reliable, honest and willing to work to become financially independent, we invite you to mail the coupon.

When you receive our illustrated booklet, you will see the way we show you step by step how to quickly get customers... and still more customers from their recommendations.

You have 7 superior services that are rendered "on location" in homes, offices, hotels, theaters, clubs, motels and institutions.

These are not ordinary services. You have

the prestige and endorsement of leading furniture makers and carpet mills, of Parents' Magazine and McCall's, of Research and Testing Laboratories.

National magazine advertising explains superior merits of your services, builds your customer confidence and brings job leads to you.

We and a Duraclean dealer will train you and assist you. He'll reveal his successful, proven methods. You have pre-tested newspaper and yellow-page ads, commercials, and a full mailing program.

Stores, upholsterers, insurance adjusters, and decorators refer jobs to our dealers. These year 'round services are in constant demand.

Start Small, Grow Big in This Booming Business

Many men have said to us, "I can't afford to give up my job till I know I have a sure thing... a sound business that will provide both security and a better living for my family."

That made sense to us so we worked out such a plan... and those same men are now enjoying a Duraclean dealership in many communities. You don't experiment. You use tested, proven methods. You have our backing and "know how."

Does this appeal to you? Don't decide now. Mail the coupon so you'll have the facts to decide wisely. There is no obligation. You'll then know whether this is what you want.

You can start small and grow big. A third century ago Duraclean was an idea... but it caught fire and spread to a world wide service. Why did it spread? (1) superior processes (2) proven customer-getting methods (3) Day to day guidance from Headquarters.

Our first service, the care of upholstery and carpets not only cleans, it enlivens the fibers... revives dull colors. It rises with new life. There's no harsh machine scrubbing. No soaking. Mild aerated foam lightly applied lifts out dirt, grease, many unsightly spots like magic. Furnishings are used again in a few hours.

Government figures show service businesses are growing faster than industries and stores... \$750 million yearly potential just in rug and furniture cleaning. Your 6 other services are explained in the free booklet we'll mail you. Less than \$1500 establishes YOUR OWN business. A day's profit more than pays the monthly payments we finance for you.

Men frequently take in partners.

We furnish electric equipment and, with first shipment, enough materials to return your TOTAL investment. If you have good habits and know the importance of customer satisfaction, you can likely qualify for a Duraclean dealership.

TODAY is the time to reserve a Duraclean dealership, before someone takes your location. It's been said, "Opportunity knocks but once at every man's door." This could be that one rare opportunity in your life.

It is surprisingly easy to learn this business. You can decide from the information we will send you whether to apply for a dealership. So, with no obligation whatsoever, mail the coupon TODAY. Cut it out NOW so you won't forget to mail it.

Mail this coupon TODAY
It may put you in business

Duraclean International
4-210 Duraclean Bldg., Deerfield, Ill. 60015

With no obligation, mail 24 page illustrated booklet telling how and why I can quickly increase my income and why you can too. I'm still employed, how you'll help finance me. No salesman will call.

Name

Address

City

State & Zip

SOME YEARS AGO I was a printer in a small Michigan town. I drew a pretty fair pay check but it wouldn't stretch far enough to provide the kind of living I wanted for my wife and five children.

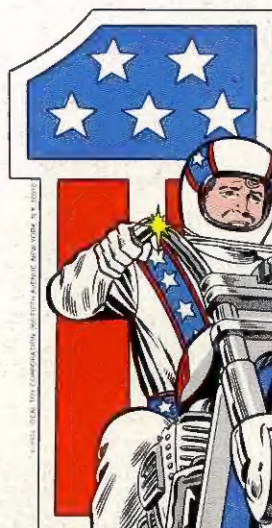
Then one day I was reading a magazine just as you now are and I saw an ad. It intrigued me. It offered me the steadily growing income I had always hoped for. It said I would have greater security and personal independence... and that's what I had been wanting.

I was a little skeptical, but I said to myself, "for a postage stamp I can find out." So I mailed the coupon. In a few days, I got a letter with a booklet that gave the whole story. It opened my eyes. I could see why owning my own business was so much easier than I had always thought... why the day to day guidance of a successful worldwide organization could assure my own success.

I read the booklet several times. It just seemed too good to be true. I talked it over with my wife. We decided that now was the time to make the forward step... there was no reason to keep postponing an income increase. So, I applied for a Duraclean dealership and I was accepted. I stayed with my job... ran a few ads... sent some mailings... contacted a few stores and told my friends about the superior services I was now equipped to give them. Evenings and Saturdays, I rendered the service. As the business grew, I added servicemen.

I found that I didn't have to develop a single idea myself. Every step had been prepared for me and pre-tested. Hundreds of other men had already proven my methods successful. It didn't take long to see that I was making three to four times (yes, 3 to 4 times) as much per hour in my own business as in my printing job. So, after only seven months with a good following of customers, I quit my job to go full time on my own. In the meantime, I had enjoyed all this extra income on top of my salary.

Each day, we realized what a serious mistake not mailing that coupon would have been... and how that little act that seemed so trivial at the time actually changed our lives. The steadily growing income brought us



IDEAL PRESENTS
THE CONTINUING
ADVENTURES OF

EVEL KNEIEVEL™



**STUNT STADIUM
CARRY CASE**

WATCH IN AMAZEMENT
AS EVEL LIFTS HIMSELF
OFF THE STUNT CYCLE
USING THE INCREDIBLE
"SKY HOOK"
AND SENDS HIS CYCLE

**BURSTING
THROUGH
THE STADIUM
DOORS!**



**SCRAMBLE
VAN**

THRILL TO
SOMERSAULTS AND JUMPS
OVER THE EVEL KNEIEVEL
SCRAMBLE VAN!



**STUNT AND
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**CYRO-POWERED
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STARTING POINT FOR ALL
THE EXCITING EVEL KNEIEVEL
STUNTS! INCLUDED WITH
STUNT CYCLE, SKY CYCLE
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CANYON SKY CYCLE

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COMPLETE WITH
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THIS IS THE VEHICLE FOR
THOSE DEATH-DEFYING STUNTS
LIKE THE LEAP OVER SNAKE
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AVAILABLE
WHERE
IDEALS
ARE SOLD



STUNT STADIUM, SCRAMBLE VAN, STUNT AND CRASH CAR, FIGURE,
STUNT CYCLE AND CANYON SKY CYCLE SOLD SEPARATELY.